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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An arrangement ~~including comprising:~~

a switching network[[,]];

a digital network;

a first PBX including

trunks connected to said switching network through trunks, said first PBX

having

lines adapted to operate with telephonic instruments,

a first processor for controlling operation of the first PBX,

a first memory associated with said first processor, and

a digital port coupled to said first processor, through which information contained in said first PBX can be accessed, and through which control signals can be applied to store in said first memory and thereby control manner of operation of said first PBX[[,]];

a first security processor for coupling the digital port of said first PBX to said digital network, for insuring that only bona fide messages pass through to said digital port from said digital network;

and a second PBX including

trunks connected to said switching network through trunks, said second

PBX having

lines adapted to operate with telephonic instruments,

a second processor for controlling operation of said second PBX,

a second memory associated with said second processor, and

a digital port coupled to said second processor through which information contained in said second PBX can be accessed, and through which control signals can be applied to store in said second memory and thereby control manner of operation of said second PBX, characterized by: and

a second security processor for coupling the digital port of said second PBX to said digital network, for insuring that only bona fide messages pass through to said digital port from said digital network;

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wherein said first memory ~~a memory in said first PBX that~~ contains a calling plan module that specifies telecommunication capabilities of line A of said first PBX, and a directive that specifies a line B in said second PBX that is to be used instead of line A, and said second memory contains a directive that line B is to be treated as if it is line A, and a module associated with line B that contains a facsimile of said calling plan module contained in said first memory. each call destined to a specified line A of said lines of said first PBX is to be forwarded, through said network, to a specified line B of said second PBX, and to forward a caller ID signal associated with said each call to said line B.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Previously Presented) The arrangement of claim 1 where said first security processor and said second security processor perform decryption of messages arriving from said digital network, further characterized by  
—— a memory in said second PBX that contains, in association with said line B, caller ID information of said line A,  
—— a telephonic instrument connected to said line B, and  
—— a means for implementing at said telephonic instrument a facsimile of a calling plan of said line A.

5. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 4 where said second processor includes a module that means translates signal activations by a at said telephonic instrument connected to line B to develop control signals for said second PBX; to that implement said calling plan of said line A, as specified in said second memory facsimile of said calling plan.

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6. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 4 ~~5~~ where said first security processor carries out an authentication process, and a format conversion process means comprises a processor that translated information obtained from said first PBX.

7. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim ~~6~~ where said processor is a (1) processor that controls said second PBX 4 further comprising a go-between processor coupled to said digital network that is interposed in the signals flow between said first security processor and said second security processor for performing format translation and encryption of communication.

8. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 1 where said module contained in said second memory includes caller ID information of line A further characterized by means for digital communication between said digital port of said first PBX and said digital port of said second PBX that requires no dial-up to proceed with said digital communication.

9. (Cancel) .

10. (Cancel) .

11. (Cancel) .

12. (Cancel) .

13. (Original) The arrangement of claim 1 ~~[[9]]~~ where said second network is a packet network, a private network, a virtual private network, or subsumed by said switching network.

14. (Cancel) .

15. (Cancel) .

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16. (Cancel) .

17. (Cancel) .

18. (Cancel) .

19. (Cancel) .

20. (Cancel) .

21. (Cancel) .

22. (Cancel) .

23. (Cancel) .

24. (Previously Presented) A method for providing virtual telephonic presence at a first telephonic instrument served by a first PBX while physically present at a second telephonic instrument served by a second PBX, comprising the steps of:

said first PBX receiving a request, on behalf of line B of said second PBX, to provide a calling plan of line A of said first PBX which describes telecommunication capabilities of a telephonic instrument connected to said line A;

installing in said first PBX information about said line B of said second PBX, including a directive that said line B is to be used in all communications pertaining to said line A;

said first PBX delivering said calling plan of said line A to said second PBX;

installing in a memory accessible by said second PBX, in association with said line B, said calling plan of said line A, a directive to provide service to said line B in accord with said calling plan of said line A, and information that allows outgoing calls from said line B to provide caller ID information of said line A;

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and said first PBX and said second PBX cooperating to provide to said line B outgoing and incoming telecommunication service in accord with said calling plan of line A and in a manner that is transparent to users;

installing a directive in said first PBX to (a) forward to said second telephonic instrument each call, having and associated caller ID information, that is destined to said first telephonic instrument and (b) cause said caller ID information to be provided to said second PBX; and

installing a directive in said second PBX to provide said caller ID information to said second telephonic instrument in same manner as caller ID information is provided to said second telephonic instrument when calls arrive to said second PBX, destined to said second telephonic instrument, from other callers.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 where said step of receiving a request receives an encrypted request, and said method further includes a step of decrypting said request A method for providing virtual telephonic presence for a first telephonic instrument served by a first PBX while at a second telephonic instrument served by a second PBX, comprising the steps of:

obtaining calling plan information of said first telephonic instrument

installing a directive in said second PBX to create, in association with said second telephonic instrument a facsimile of said calling plan.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 further executing a process for authentication of authority of party from whom said request is received to make said request, where, as part of said directive a caller ID associated with said first telephone instrument is installed in said second PBX, and associated with said second telephone.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 further comprising:  
said first PBX receiving a call from party X, destined to line A;  
said first PBX sending a message to said second PBX to ring line B;  
said second PBX ringing line B;

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said second PBX informing said first PBX of a ringing-no-answer condition at line B; and

said first PBX connecting said party X to a messaging platform associated with said first PBX 26 where said caller ID that is installed corresponds to full telephone number of said first telephone.

28. (Cancel) .

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~24~~ 25 further comprising the ~~step of storing said calling plan information obtained in said step of obtaining in a~~ where ~~said memory accessible by said second PBX associated with a processor that is part of~~ said second PBX, an adjunct of said second PBX, or is remote to said second PBX and is reachable by said second PBX through a network.

30. (Cancel).

31. (Cancel).

32. (Currently Amended) A method for providing virtual telephonic presence at a ~~first telephonic instrument served by a line A of a first PBX while physically present~~ at a second telephonic instrument served by connected to line B of a second PBX, comprising the steps of:

receiving a connection request at said ~~second~~ telephonic instrument;

determining that a directive exists with respect to said ~~second~~ telephonic instrument that a foreign calling plan is to be emulated, which foreign calling plan is a calling plan for line A, previously obtained from said first PBX and installed in said second PBX to be associated with said line B;

translating said connection request in accordance with information regarding said calling plan to create translated connection request; and

undertaking to establish a connection pursuant to said translated connection request.

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**33. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 32 where said information regarding said calling plan is accessed in course of said translating from memory of said second PBX, from memory of a processor that is an adjunct of said second PBX, or from memory of a processor that is reachable by said second PBX through a network.

**34. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 32 where said information regarding said calling plan is accessed in course of said translating from memory of a processor that is an adjunct of said second PBX, or from memory of a processor that is reachable by said second PBX through a network, and said translating is performed by said processor.